

BASEBALL—SPORTS OF ALL SORTS—BOXING

LARRY DOYLE NOT BOTHERED BY BROKEN ANKLE

By Mark Shields

In news from the Cub training camp at Pasadena, Larry Doyle, captain and second baseman, is seldom mentioned. This has given rise to a report in several quarters that the former Giant star will not be able to play regularly this season because of the broken ankle he suffered last fall.

These reports do not stand up well under investigation. Doyle is being allowed to take his time getting into condition. He is putting work on the newly-healed ankle gradually, taking no chances that might give him a setback.

So far as can be learned—and this is from Doyle himself and several people who are in his confidence—the ankle will cause not the slightest trouble. Larry wintered in the south and tested his running gear there. He played golf and took long walks. He did everything but twist and turn suddenly, and never had the least pain.

Broken ankles have seldom kept players from the game permanently. Johnny Evers, Red Smith, Frank Gilhooley, Mike Donlin, Roy Chapman, Harry Wolter and several others have snapped bones, but subsequently came back and were as good as ever. Five of those boys are still in the big leagues, and Donlin is managing Memphis of the Southern league.

The best indication that Manager Mitchell is not worried about Doyle is that no effort has been made to get a man for his place. Steve Yerkes is performing there on the coast in exhibition games, but it is not probable a chance would be taken with Steve as a regular. He was sent away last year and is at an age when he cannot be expected to improve. On the coast or in the south

Yerkes is a fine ballplayer, but he needs continuous hot weather.

Chick Gandil has signed a one-year contract to play first base for the White Sox at terms not given out. Chick appeared satisfied and made the usual threats of the best year of his career, etc.

Notwithstanding the presence of Gandil, who is looked on as the regular first baseman, Jourdan and Hasbrook will be given a thorough trial, and it is probable one of them will be kept on for at least a part of the season. Jourdan appears to have the better chance to stick, because of his experience and the hitting ability he exhibited in the Western league.

Manager Rowland and Pres. Comiskey do not want to be caught in a jam by injuries to Gandil, who is a notorious sufferer from a weak leg. They want a man ready to jump immediately into the breach in case of emergency. And that emergency is liable to crop up.

Cleveland disposed of Gandil and is relying on Louis Guisto, a coast athlete who was pretty good out that way, but was weak before American league pitching last fall. Guisto is an experiment. And if Cleveland is disposed to take a chance on him, if it drops Gandil when the only bulwark is a green man, it arouses suspicion that Chick's leg is not as strong as it was in 1916.

Practice games between the regulars and rookies are being continued and some good batting is developing. Joe Benz tried to pitch against the first team yesterday and was unmercifully pounded.

The battle for the shortstop berth goes vigorously on. Risberg is working with the first team and Hartford with the second. Terry and McMullin are taking their time, but promise to have a lot to say about the final disposition of the job. McMullin and his important bat cannot be ignored in awarding the job.